

the store, and the cashing operation panel is accessible to a store customer or the general public.

Please **ADD** new claim 11 as follows:

11. (NEW) A cash depositing and withdrawal machine, comprising:
- a deposit operation panel used to enter data to deposit cash;
 - a cashing operation panel used to enter data to withdraw cash;
 - a first cash storage unit storing deposited cash and a second cash storage unit storing cash to be withdrawn;
 - an apportioning unit allocating the deposited cash between the first cash storage unit and the second cash storage unit to maintain a predetermined amount of cash in the second cash storage unit; and
 - a communications unit sending deposit data and withdrawal data to a cash logistics company.

REMARKS

Claims 1-10 are pending in this application. The Examiner has objected to claims 4 and 5 as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but indicated that these claims would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claims 1-3 and 6-10 have been rejected. Amendments to claims 1-10 are presented herein. Claim 11 is newly added in this response. The specification has been amended to improve form. The title of the invention and Figure 1 have been amended. No new matter is being presented, and approval and entry are respectfully requested.

The Objection to the Drawings

In item 2 on page 2 of the Office Action, the Examiner objected to Figure 1 for not including a legend such as --Prior Art--. Applicants provide a proposed drawing correction in red ink for Figure 1 with this response, including an accompanying Letter to the Examiner

Requesting Approval of the Changes to the Drawings. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the objection to the drawings.

The Objection to the Title

In item 4 on page 2 of the Office Action, the Examiner objected to the title as not being descriptive. Applicants request that the title be changed to the following, as suggested by the Examiner on page 2 of the Office Action: "STORE SALES PROCEED DEPOSITING MACHINE INCLUDING A CASH DISPENSER." Accordingly, Applicants request withdrawal of the objection to the title.

Objections to the Claims

In item 5 on pages 3 and 4 of the Office Action, the Examiner objected to claims 1-6, 8, and 9 because of various informalities. Applicants submit that amendments to the claims presented herein correct the informalities. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the objections to the claims.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

In items 6 and 7 on pages 4-9 of the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 1-3 and 6-10 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Uchida et al. (U.S. Patent No. 4,890,824) in view of Martin et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,508,500) and Owens et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,371,368). Applicants respectfully traverse these rejections for the reasons presented below.

Claim 1 of the present invention recites, as amended, "A store sales proceed depositing machine ... to **notify a cash logistics company of deposit data** ... and wherein the cashing controller performs processing to ... **provide cashing data to** the financial institution and to **the cash logistics company**" (emphasis added). Independent claim 8 recites similar language.

In the present invention, ownership of the cash deposited in the store sales proceeds depositing machine transfers to a cash logistics company. The cash logistics company

periodically retrieves the cash in the cash storage unit of the machine and, thus, the cash logistics company must know the exact amount of cash that should be in the cash storage unit. Otherwise, it would be difficult to determine whether any problems exist, such as theft of some of the cash. Accordingly, in the present invention, the amount of cash deposited and stored in the cash storage unit, as well as the amount of cash withdrawn from the machine through a cashing operation, is provided to the cash logistics company so that the cash logistics company knows the amount of cash that should be available for retrieval from the machine.

The Uchida reference relates to a circulation-type bill receiving and dispensing machine. The Martin reference relates to a time-delayed cash dispenser. The Owens reference relates to an automated transaction machine. However, it is the position of the Applicants that none of the cited references discloses sending both deposit data and cashing data to a cash logistics company.

Therefore, Applicants submit that independent claims 1 and 8 patentably distinguish over the prior art. The dependent claims depend from the above-discussed independent claims and are patentable over the prior art for the reasons discussed above. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections under §103.

New Claim

Claim 11 is newly added with this response to alternatively define the present invention. Similar to claim 1, claim 11 recites a cash depositing and withdrawal machine including "a communications unit sending deposit data and withdrawal data to a cash logistics company." These features are not taught or suggested by the cited references. Thus, for at least the reasons presented above, Applicants submit claim 11 patentably distinguishes over the prior art. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request allowance of the new claim.

CONCLUSION

It is submitted that none of the references, either taken alone or in combination, teach the present claimed invention. Thus, claims 1-11 are deemed to be in a condition suitable for

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allowance. Reconsideration of the claims and an early Notice of Allowance are earnestly solicited.

If there are any formal matters remaining after this response, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned to attend to these matters.

Finally, if there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please AMEND the specification at page 8, lines 20 to 28 in accordance with the following:

On the other hand, the cashing section 10S at the rear side 10R of the store sales proceed depositing machine 10 is provided with a cashing operation panel 1, a cashing operation screen 2, a cashing card insertion slot 3, a cashing receipt issuing slot 4, and a cash dispensing slot 5. The machine has a cashing use cash storage unit 6 inside it. The cashing section [S] 10S of this embodiment is configured to enable dispensing of only bills.

Please AMEND the specification at page 15, lines 24 to 35 in accordance with the following

Figures 7A and 7B explain the deposit processing in the depositing section 10N of the store sales proceed depositing machine 10. At the time of deposit, first, at step [7011] 701 the depositor is made to select a deposit mode. The depositor is made to select the deposit mode to choose between actual deposit and counting of the deposited amount. After selecting the deposit mode, the depositor inserts his or her deposit card (ID) card in the depositing section. At step 702, the ID card is scanned. In this operation, the ID of the ID card of the depositor and the registered ID stored in the depositing section 10N are compared for verification.

Please AMEND the specification at page 18, lines 19-31 in accordance with the following

When a bill taken out from the second cash storage unit [isnot] is not normal, the control proceeds to step 808, where the already counted bills are retrieved at the cashing rejection unit. The control returns to step 806, where bills are again taken out from the second cash storage unit. the cashing use cash is counted, and it is determined if the cashing use bills are normal or not. If the cashing use bill are all normal, the counted currency is held in the cash temporary holder at step 809. Next, at step 810, the shutter of the bill dispenser of the cashing section is

opened and the bills held in the cash temporary holder are made available from the bill dispenser.

Please AMEND the specification at page 20, lines 2 to 10 in accordance with the following:

Next, at the cashing section 10S side, the ownership of the bills is transferred from the cash logistics company to the lease company when the bills are taken out from the cashing use bill stacker 41 and reach the bill dispenser (shown as the bill pool in the figure) 44. Further, the bills B become owned by the person withdrawing the [bills] bills (customer) when the bills B are taken outside of the cashing section 10S from the bill pool 44.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please **AMEND** the following claims:

1. (ONCE AMENDED) A store sales proceed depositing machine [provided with] having a deposit operation panel located at one side of the machine and, [provided] inside the machine, [with] a cash storage unit and an external communications unit [for notifying] to notify a cash logistics company of deposit data through a public line, [wherein] the machine comprising:

[provision is made of] a cashing operation panel located at [a] another side of the machine different from the [deposit] side[,] at which the deposit operation panel is located; and

[provision is made inside the machine of] a cashing controller, a second cash storage unit [for] storing a predetermined amount of cash for a cashing service, a [second] cash temporary holder [for taking out] removing and temporarily holding a cashed amount from the second cash storage unit, and a cashing processor [for] dispensing cash from the [second] cash temporary holder and issuing a receipt, the cashing controller, the second cash storage unit, the cash temporary holder, and the cashing processor being located inside the machine.

wherein the external communications unit [is given a function enabling communication] communicates with a financial institution, and

wherein the cashing controller [is made to perform] performs processing [for verification of the] to verify a person performing the cashing operation, [processing for determining] determine whether to authorize cashing by [confirmation of the] confirming a balance in [that person's] a savings account of the person, [processing for dispensing] dispense cash to be reimbursed from [that person's] the savings account when authorizing cashing, and [processing for notifying the] provide cashing data to the financial institution and to the cash logistics company.

2. (ONCE AMENDED) A store sales proceed depositing machine as set forth in claim 1, [wherein] further comprising a cash apportioner located [is provided] before [said] the cash storage unit[,] to apportion deposited cash [is stored apportioned] between [said] the cash storage unit and [said] the second cash storage unit, [by this cash apportioner, and] a part of the deposited cash [is] being used to resupply the cash in the second cash storage unit.

3. (ONCE AMENDED) A store sales proceed depositing machine as set forth in claim 2, wherein [said] the external communications unit notifies [said] the cash logistics company of the deposit data and [the] an amount of cash apportioned by [said] the cash apportioner to [said] the second cash storage unit [so as to enable] for use by the cash logistics company [side] to [keep the] maintain consistency between an amount of sales proceeds deposited and an amount of cash retrieved by the cash logistics company [matching].

4. (ONCE AMENDED) A store sales proceed depositing machine as set forth in claim 2, wherein [said] the cash apportioner changes [the] a ratio of apportionment of the deposited cash with a [so that the] balance of cash for the cashing service in the second cash storage unit [becomes said] being the predetermined amount.

5. (ONCE AMENDED) A store sales proceed depositing machine as set forth in claim 4, wherein [said] the external communications unit notifies [said] the cash logistics company of the deposit data and [the] an amount of cash apportioned by [said] the cash apportioner to [said] the second cash storage unit [so as to enable] for use by the cash logistics company [side] to [keep the] maintain consistency between an amount of sales proceeds deposited and an amount of cash retrieved by the cash logistics company [matching].

6 (ONCE AMENDED) A store sales proceed depositing machine as set forth in claim 1, wherein [said] the cashing operation panel is [provided] located at [the rear] a side opposite the side at which [of] the deposit operation panel [of the machine] is located.

7 (ONCE AMENDED) A store sales proceed depositing machine as set forth in claim 6, wherein [said] the deposit operation panel and [said] the cashing operation panel of [said] the machine are separated by a wall, the deposit operation panel is [made] accessible only to a manager or employee of the store, and [said] the cashing operation panel is [made usable by] accessible to a store customer or the general public.

8 (ONCE AMENDED) A store sales proceed depositing machine [provided with] having a deposit operation panel located at one side of the machine and, [provided with] inside the machine, a storage unit [for] storing deposited cash and an external communications unit [for notifying] to notify a cash logistics company of deposit data through a public line [inside the machine], [wherein] the machine comprising

[provision is made of] a cashing operation panel [providing with] having at least an ID card insertion slot, a cash dispensing slot, and a receipt issuing slot, and being located at [a] another side of the machine different from the side at which the deposit operation panel[,] is located; and

[provision is made inside the machine of] a cashing controller, a [second] cash temporary holder [for taking out] to remove, [counting] count, and [then] temporarily [holding cash of] hold an amount of cash input from the cashing operation panel and from the cash storage unit, and a cashing processor [for] dispensing cash from the [second] cash temporary holder [from] to the cash dispensing slot and issuing a cashing receipt,

wherein the external communications unit [is given a function enabling communication] communicates with a financial institution, and

wherein the cashing controller [is made to perform] performs processing [for verification of the] to verify an ID card input from the cashing operation panel, [processing for judging] determine whether to authorize [cashing] cashing by [confirmation of the] confirming a balance in a savings account of a person withdrawing cash, [processing for dispensing] dispense cash to be reimbursed from [that person's] the savings account when authorizing cashing, and [processing for notifying the] provide cashing data to the financial institution and to the cash logistics company.

9. (ONCE AMENDED) A store sales proceed depositing machine as set forth in claim 8, wherein [said] the cashing operation panel is [provided] located at [the rear] a side opposite the side at which [of] the deposit operation panel [of the machine] is located.

10. (ONCE AMENDED) A store sales proceed depositing machine as set forth in claim 9, wherein [said] the deposit operation panel and [said] the cashing operation panel of [said] the machine are separated by a wall, the deposit operation panel is [made] accessible only to a manager or employee of the store, and [said] the cashing operation panel is [made usable by] accessible to a store customer or the general public.

Please **ADD** the following new claim:

11. (NEW) A cash depositing and withdrawal machine, comprising:
a deposit operation panel used to enter data to deposit cash;
a cashing operation panel used to enter data to withdraw cash;
a first cash storage unit storing deposited cash and a second cash storage unit storing cash to be withdrawn;
an apportioning unit allocating the deposited cash between the first cash storage unit and the second cash storage unit to maintain a predetermined amount of cash in the second cash storage unit; and
a communications unit sending deposit data and withdrawal data to a cash logistics company.